



MILATARI NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 Number 12

November 1984

Price \$1.00

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COMPUTER ART BY DICK SKOVER



Read about Dick on page 6 - See more of his computer art on pages 7 & 10

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PRESIDENT'S RAM

by Gary Nolan

JOHNNY! QUIT HITTING YOUR SISTER WITH
THAT DRUMSTICK

(No, you can't stuff cranberries in her ears either)

Well Halloween is over and Thanksgiving is coming up with Christmas and New Years right behind. That means this is November, RIGHT? It must be, there's frost on the car windows in the morning and it gets dark before supper. Hey, can't fool me that easy. All this means that you've got one more month to get your programs ready for the December meeting and the Great Christmas Contest. Some of the prizes that will be given away will include VisiCalc, Family Finances, Qix, Ms PacMan, Defender and others. The holidays also mean that there will be no meetings in Waukesha until January. The coming end of the year also means the end of the PAC MAN t-shirts for sale. After the Nov. meeting we will turn back all the shirts that are left. So if you've been putting off buying one plan on doing it fast. Club shirts and hats will still be available.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME????

Those of you who read InfoWorld must have seen John Dvoraks column with the latest Atari rumor in it. If not I'll run it by you one time. (If nothing else Fast Jack has upgraded the rumors) One of the machines that Atari will introduce at the Winter CES will be a 68000 based computer running at 6/8 MHZ, with color graphics resolution of 600 by 400, an eight channel sound synthesizer and it can be hooked up to a music synthesizer keyboard. It will supposedly come with a 3 1/2" Sony type drive. Rumored price (according to Dvorak) \$300, probably without the drive. Wait! There's more. It seems that Tramiel has worked out (or is working on) a deal to bring out a \$200, 10 Meg. hard disk drive for this computer. The big fly in this ointment is that Dvorak has yet to be right on any of his Atari rumors (and most of his others, too). Maybe the Arteasians have moved south and tainted his funny water. If

Tramiel was able to work some deals in the far east (if he can't, no one can) he might be able to sell it at a tight profit for \$800/1000 give or take a hundred. Another rumor has Atari clearing out the 800XL's during the Christmas season and bringing out an upgraded version. This one would use one of the new 16 bit - 6502 compatible chips like Western Digital Design's 65816 or 65802 and have 128K of RAM. These could be the 8, 16 and 32 bit machines the "experts" have talked about. Both of these chips will run software written for the 6502 chip. The 65816 is a true 16 bit processor and can address more than 16 meg of RAM, while the 65802 is a 8/16 bit and can only directly address 64K of memory and can NOT run 6502 software when in its 16 bit mode. The second price cut on the 800's was made the other day. They're selling for \$169 at some stores in the area.

WHO CALLED THIS STUFF "JUNK" MAIL ANYWAY?

This months mail has some pretty good offers in it so I'll get right to them. Alphacom is offering an Alphacom 42 printer package for \$59.95. This printer is a 40 col., dot matrix, thermal type. It comes with one roll of paper, a direct connect cable (no 850 needed) and an owners manual. They will also supply each users group with a public domain program that allows you to print screen dumps of most of the graphics programs and tablets files. There is a minimum of four printers required on this order to receive this price. If we can get twelve ordered the price will be \$49.95. From Compu-Tech International comes an offer on the Amdek 3" disk drives. CTI is running a special promo along with Amdek. These drives come in two models, a single drive (AMDC-1) and a double drive (AMDC-2). Both units are fan cooled, have a printer port and a second Atari serial port, and can control up to three "slave" drives with the built in controller. The way I understand it these "slave" drives can be other 3" drives or 5 1/4" drives. The units in this promo offer come with

PRESIDENT'S RAM (Continued)

DOS/XL Ver 2.3, Choplifter, LJK's Data Perfect (double density version) and a box of ten 3" diskettes. Prices are \$450 for the single drive and \$650 for the double unit. These prices are good until Dec. 31st. BUT, if you order before Dec. 1st CTI will throw in TWO (2) EXTRA boxes of 3" disks for each unit ordered. Not a bad deal. But wait! There's more. As you know the clubs BBS drives were wiped out by lightning. We just now (Nov. 2nd) got the check from the insurance company, so we're in the market for some new drives. Here's your chance to pay back the club for any help it might have been to you. After all you heard about this offer through the club. Anyway you're getting a good deal and now the club can get some needed drives with your help. CTI has come up with a really special promo program that can help us out. By ordering the Amdek drives from them and letting them know that you're a user group member you (or the group) can earn "points" that allow you to receive "no charge" products. The list of products include a case (100) of 5 1/4" or 3" disks, MPP modems, plotters, color monitors, Spider Pac power supplies, single and double drive units and two models of daisy wheel printers. Not a dog in the bunch. But some need one point while others require six. For every single drive you order you receive one point and for every double you get two points. If any of you are interested in ordering these drives and want to help out the club we can pool the order and earn points toward new BBS drives. Think of it as your Christmas present to Milatari. But if you would rather be greedy and take the goodies for yourself here, are the numbers and ordering info. For the single drive unit order AD1-UG, for the double drive unit AD2-UG. You have to order using these to get the special "no charge" products. If you are ordering by "plastic" money you can call toll free at 1-800-824-7888 and ask for operator #93. If ordering with check or money order send

it to:

Compu-Tech International
AMDEK Promo
P.O. Box 5058
Glendale, AZ 85306

If you want more info on the "no charge" products and the points needed to get them give me a call or see me at the meeting. Or call CTI at 602-979-2100. In last months mail (the day before the last meeting) we received a demo model of a new game called Party Quiz from the people at Suncom. A review of that is elsewhere in this issue.

NICE SHOW, GUYS

The ATR/CP/M SIG had a nice turnout at its last meeting. I did not make the meeting because I was sent out of town on business (at least my wife believed me) and got back a little too late to make it down there. Don gave a short demo of WordStar and DBASE II. At next months meeting we'll show you how to set up WordStar to come up running the way you want it as far help levels and logged drives and the like. While on the subject of Don Wilcox hosting the SIG meetings, I'D like to ask someone out there to think about taking over that task. Don and his wife will be moving to the northwest area come spring. So if you're into the ATR or CP/M and are a member of the SIG or are thinking about joining, give some consideration to idea of hosting a meeting once a month. While on the subject of ATR's, some of you probably heard talk of a hard disk controller being developed for ATR use. As far as we know there are at least two people working on that project right now. One in Michigan and one in California. We'll let you know as soon as we find out. Also in this months Austin ATR newsletter was an article on building a 80 col terminal for use with the ATR's. It comes as a kit from Digital Research Computers of Garland, TX and sells for \$130 less keyboard, power supply and case. So for about \$250 you can have a terminal with 80x24 or 96x64 display. I'll have

PRESIDENT'S RAM (Continued)

LINDA ON THE AIRWAYS!

more info at the next meeting. If you can't wait until then pick up the November issue of BYTE and look at DRC's ad on Pg. 60. It will give you all the info on the ZRT-80 terminal board. Thought about consolidating all the ATR related hardware into one package? Well Dwight Johnson from the Waukegan Atari group did and he brought his creation to the last SIG meeting. Built into an IBM type case were two 1/2 high DSDD drives and the ATR motherboard and a power supply to run it. From all reports it was a pretty slick unit. Now if I could only talk him into showing it off at the regular meeting so I could see it. You listening Dwight?

WORK-WORK-WORK

This months workshop will deal with AtariWriter and the printer driver from APX. Those of you who have this inexpensive yet versatile word processor will want to be there for this workshop. Tom Jacobs is asking for your help in planning future workshops. If you have any ideas for or would like to do a workshop give Tom or Ben Wong a call. Toms number is 444-5390 and Ben's is 784-5879.

NUMBER PLEA-AHS

There's a new version of the popular Amodem communications program out that has some nice features such as on screen clock, autodial from a user built directory and the ability to print the current screen. We hope to have a copy in the library for the next meeting. We also hope to have more disks for sale at the reduced price. We might have some of the DiskBank storage cases too.

WRAP-UP

OK! Once more before I go.
Board of directors meeting: Nov. 15th
Milwaukee meeting: Nov. 17th
West meeting: NONE
Thanksgiving: Nov. 22nd
CP/M meeting: Nov. 27th

See you on the 17th, BYE.....

COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION airs on Radio

Linda Scott, MILATARI secretary, is the producer of a series of 13 programs on Computers in Education on radio station WYMS. The 13 week series will investigate how computers are being used in all areas of education. Each week experts from education and computer professionals are interviewed.

The program airs each Thursday evening at 9:00 P.M. on radio station WYMS located at 89FM.

November/December MILATARI Calander

Nov 15th MILATARI board meeting 7:30 PM
Chris Stieber's home

Nov 17th Milwaukee meeting - Armbruster
2:00 PM - Workshop

ATARIWRITER

3:30 PM - Business meeting

4:30 PM - Demonstrations

'NEW' Atari Light Pen

'Secret Agent' - Education program from Scholastic

Nov 27th ATR8000-CP/M meeting
Don Wilcox's home

Dec 13th MILATARI board meeting 7:30 PM
Chris Stieber's home

Dec 15th Milwaukee meeting - Armbruster
2:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Holiday contest judging
Christmas party

(There will be no MILATARI West meetings scheduled during November and December due to holiday conflicts - A cassette drive turnup clinic is being planned for the January meeting.)

OSS WRITES ONLY PRECISION SOFTWARE... OUR CUSTOMERS WRITE OUR BEST ADS!

BASIC XL

"BASIC XL is a fast and powerful extension of Atari BASIC, totally compatible with virtually all software. Its many features make programming easy, especially games that require player/missile graphics. For people writing business software or translating existing programs from other computers, the new string arrays and other string-handling features make the task manageable. BASIC XL is a truly professional language that should become standard in all future Atari computers. Overall Rating—A." *The Addison-Wesley Book of Atari Software 1984*

BASIC XL SuperCartridge & Manual (Requires 16K Memory) \$99.00

ACTION!

"For those who have found BASIC to be too slow or assembler too difficult, ACTION! is the logical alternative. ACTION! programs can increase speed from 50 to 200 times that of BASIC." *Jerry White, Antic, February 1984*

ACTION! SuperCartridge & Manual (Requires 16K Memory) \$99.00

MAC/65

"For the serious machine language programmer or anyone interested in programming in 6502 machine language, this package is a must. A lot of the good professional software on the market, games or otherwise, was written using this brute. Coding machine language with anything else is like trying to swim upstream in quicksand." *ACE Of West Hartford, May 1984*

MAC/65 SuperCartridge & Manual (Requires 16K Memory) \$99.00

THE WRITER'S TOOL was designed for WRITERS who want to WRITE!

When you want to write on your Atari® Computer—a letter, a business report, or a book—you want to concentrate on writing and not on the word processor that you are using.

You want to write immediately without having to spend hours learning some fancy system or remembering complicated commands.

You want to write quickly...as fast as your imagination can fly. Then edit just as fast...correct mistakes; change, add, or delete words and phrases; rearrange the sequence of paragraphs or entire pages without fearing that one slip of your fingers might wipe-out hours of precious work.

You want to be able to save or retrieve your text files on any type of Atari compatible disk drive using either single-density or double-density disks without worrying about accidentally erasing files.

You want to be able to print out your finished piece right away, using all of your printer's capabilities such as Pica, Elite, and condensed type; print two-columns on 8½" wide paper and proportional spacing; and print different types of characters: double-width, bold-face, italics, underlined, ^{superscript}, and _{subscript}.

Compare THE WRITER'S TOOL with the others: feature for feature, dollar for dollar—if you can find a better word processor, buy it!

THE WRITER'S TOOL*

SuperCartridge, Program Disk, Tutorial & Reference Manual \$129.95

*Requires an Atari® Computer with 40K memory, disk drive, and any Atari compatible printer.

ATARI® is the registered trademark of ATARI, INC.

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9805 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee 53214
L & L STAMP, COIN & COMPUTER
141 W. Broadway, Waukesha, WI 53186

STARTING COMPUTERS
4020 N. 128th St., Brookfield, WI 53005



Optimized Systems Software, Inc.

1221B Kentwood Avenue, San Jose, California 95129 (408) 446-3099

 Party Quiz Review by Gary Nolan

QUICK! WHO WAS THE HOLLYWOOD PALACE CARD-HOLDER GIRL?

Do you like Trivial Pursuit?

Are you good at it?

Would you like to play it on your Atari?

Well it's not Trivial Pursuit but the premise is the same. It's called PQ or Party Quiz and it's a computerized IP for Atari's and C-64's and it comes from the folks at Suncom. You know. The joystick people. The game comes with a program disk with some 2500 questions on it plus another disk with another set of questions, another 2500 I guess. Also included is a special adaptor that plugs into joystick ports 1 & 2. Into this you plug the special game controllers that have four large buttons on them. Although the premise is the same PQ has some interesting enhancements that only a computer can give you. First one is in limiting the time you have to answer a question, you can set the length from 5 to 20 sec.. You can play with one to four players and you can handicap any or all of them to different degrees. PQ has two play modes, social or competitive to choose from. You select the number of ten question rounds you want to play, from 1 to 5. The game is played for total point accumulation and has a built in scoreboard. You score points by answering the questions that appear on the screen. And you answer questions by pressing the right button. Hey, easy money. Right? Well maybe. The points you receive for answering goes down as the time runs down. The quicker you can answer the more points you get. No, it won't help to press the four buttons as fast as you can. You only get one try per question. Remember the computer is keeping track. Somewhere towards the end of the rounds there is a lightning round in which each player gets a chance to answer as many questions as he can in twenty seconds for bonus points. Suncom said that they will have supplemental question disks available in a number of categories, sports, entertainment, general and even a Bible disk later this year or early next. These will sell for \$25. Is it worth it? Well at \$60/70 the price is a little high but

not too far out of line. Discounted price should make it a reasonable buy, ditto for the extra question disks. It's strong point is its flexibility and configurability. If you're a trivia buff you'll want to take a good close look at this one. As I said before we received this just before the October meeting and most of the members liked it, same for those who tried it at the West meeting. Ask Dave how his children liked it.



This computer art on the cover and elsewhere in this issue are the creation of Dick Skover. Dick has been a member of Milatari for about a year. He is a free-lance commercial artist and uses his Atari to create artwork that he uses in his business.

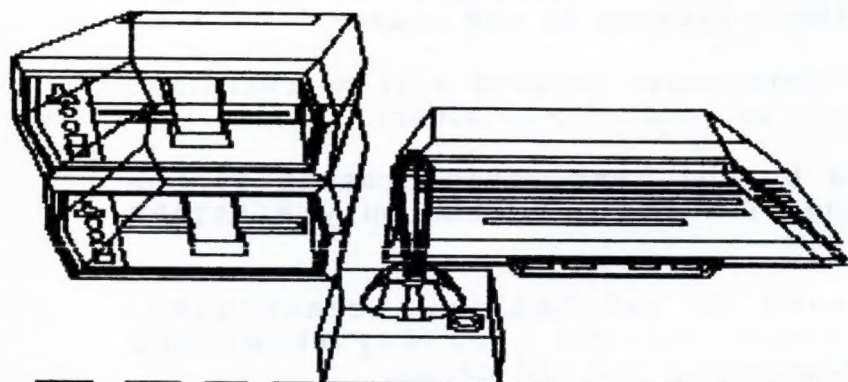
Dick uses many of the drawing packages including 'ATARI WORLD'.

You can contact Dick at Dick Skover Illustration, 8050 North Port Washington Road, Milwaukee, WI 53217 or phone Dick at (414)351-1341.

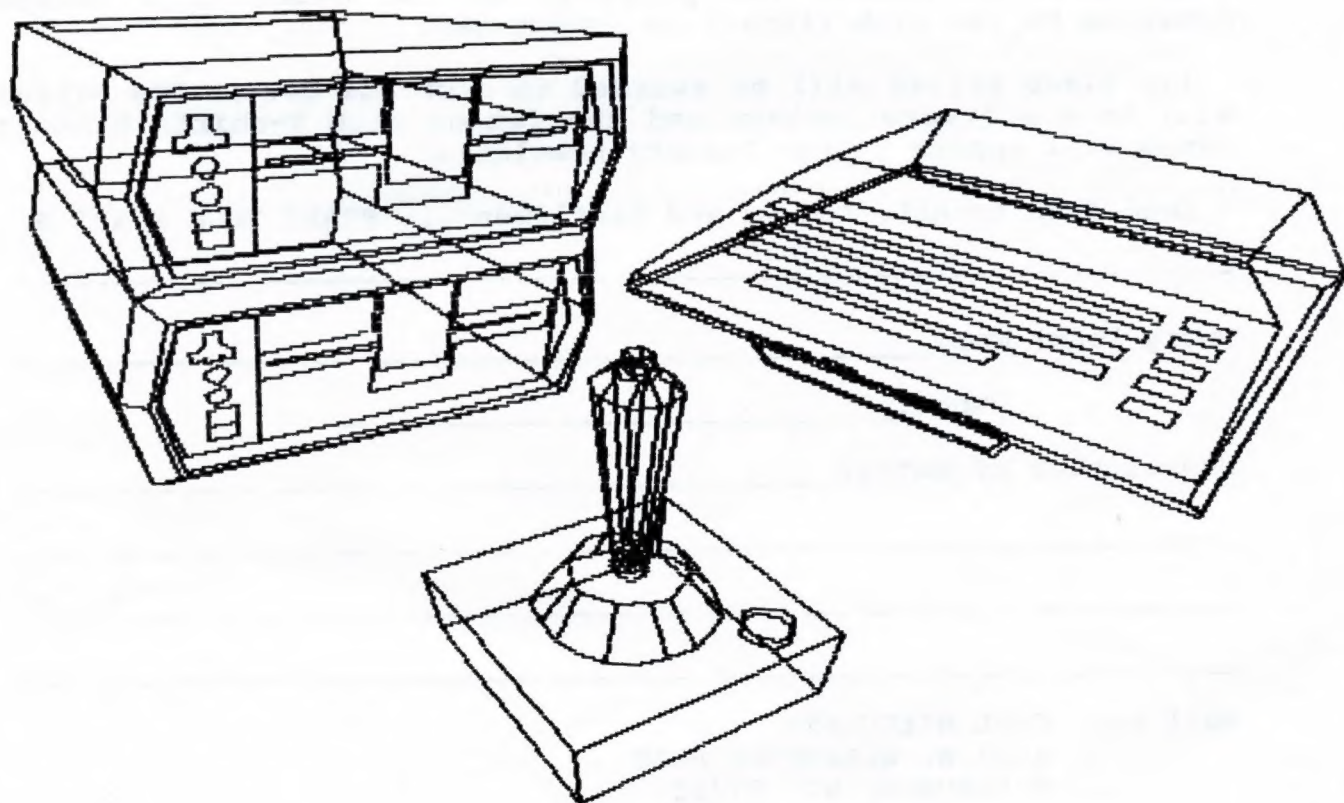
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COMPUTER ART by dick skover

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MILATARI



HOLIDAY CONTEST

MILATARI is sponsoring a holiday ATARI programming contest!

Entries can be displays, musical, interactive, or game. Remember to select a holiday theme fitting to the season.

The contest is open to members only. Judging will be three in age groups - under 12, 12 thru 16, and 17 and older.

The judging will be done by the membership present at the December Armbruster meeting. This will be the only MILATARI meeting during December.

The judging will be based on originality, creativity, playability, visual and sound effects, holiday theme and presentation. One vote per membership per age group.

The contestants must bring their own equipment to demonstrate their programs. You can arrange to share the equipment with other contestants. If it is impossible to provide your own equipment, contact one of the MILATARI board members to see if they can be of help. Please register your entry with the Contest Committee or a board member as soon as possible.

All entries should be original programs. You can use commercial programs to build your displays or music in your program, but the program you display must be created by you.

All entries remain the property of the authors, although donation to the club library is encouraged.

1st place prizes will be awarded to each age group. The prizes will be a software package and the famous club T-shirt. Winners names will appear in the January newsletter.

Good luck to ALL. Ladies and Gentlemen ... START YOUR ATARI'S!

Entry form: Name _____

Phone: _____

Description of entry: _____

Mail to: CARL MIELCAREK
6933 W. GLENBROOK ROAD
MILWAUKEE, WI 53223

MILATARI NEWSLETTER
ROM Magazine Questionarre

November 1984

Page 9

ROM Magazine
P.O. BOX 252
Maple Ridge, B.C.
V2X 7G1
(604)462-9128 or 462-9177

Dear User Group,

Below this brief letter is a questionarre that should be answered by one or more members of the group. We at ROM are sending this letter to a number of user groups and the results will appear in the next issue of ROM. We are also offering something that is not available in other magazines. Free advertisement to User Groups. We are going to call this section, "The Atari Users Network". This can be a place where a user group can make announcements of guest speakers, news letters or interests of your group. Thankyou very much for your cooperation and please return your answers A.S.A.P.

Yours Sincerely,
Peter Ellison
Editor

ROM Magazine Questionarre

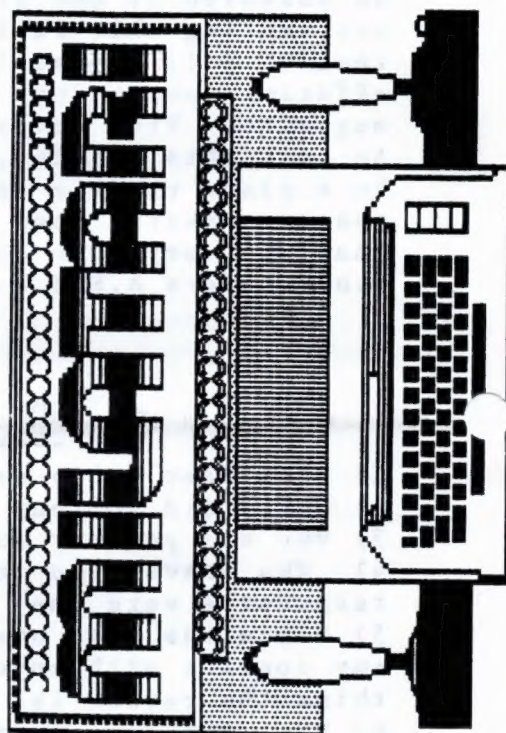
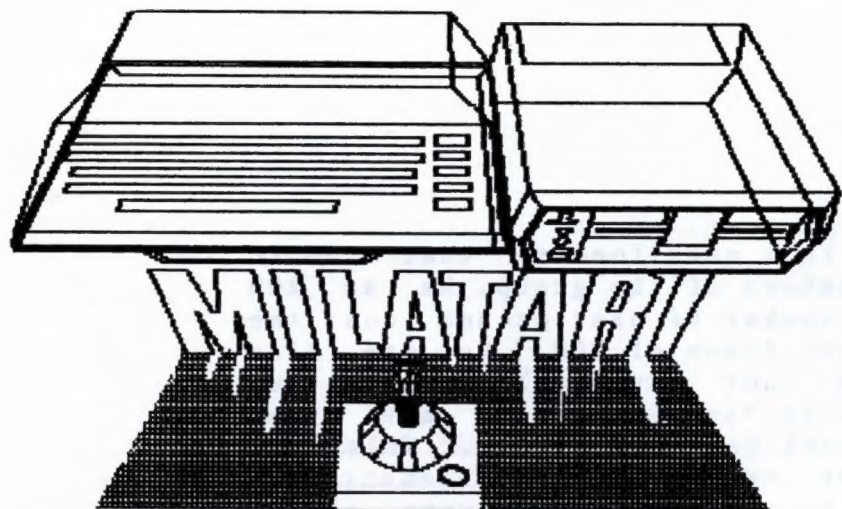
- 1) What User Group are you from?
- 2) Where did you buy your Atari?
- 3) Why did you buy an Atari?
- 4) Who have you had contact with at Atari, and how responsive were they to your questions?
- 5) Since the take over at Atari have you been able to make any contact with anyone? If YES, who, if NO why do you think the reason is?
- 6) What types of things do you do at a typical user group meeting? Do you enjoy them?
- 7) What suggestions, if any, do you have to people who want to start up a new user group.
- 8) Which magazines do you read regularly concerning computers?
- 9) Why do you read magazines?
- 10) What things would you like to see in a magazine but are not in them?
- 11) What is your favourite game? Educational program? Business program? Utility program? that is available for the Atari.
- 12) What program would you like to see for the Atari but is not yet available?
- 13) Where do you buy most of your software?
- 14) What is your favourite type of software?
- 15) Do you think Jack Tramiel will bring out a new Atari computer in January like promised? Why?

Thankyou for taking the time to feel this questionarre out. There will be a drawing for free subscriptions to ROM from all the questionarres returned.

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COMPUTER ART by dick skover

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===== MILATARI INFORMATION PAGE =====

MILATARI OFFICERS

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 Vice President...Chris Stieber.529-2663
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 Treasurer.....Steve Tupper..462-8178

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 Assembler SIG...Erik Hanson....252-3146
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 DiskCarl Mielcarek.355-3539
 Bill Lawrence..968-9341
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 Publications....Marcus Hagen...445-0710
 Bill Feest.....321-4314

MILATARI BULLETIN BOARD.....355-6031

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

This newsletter is written and printed by members of the Milwaukee Area ATARI User's Group (MILATARI), an association of individuals with a common interest in using and programming ATARI computers. MILATARI is not affiliated with the ATARI company or any other commercial organizations.

Your contributions of articles are always welcome. You may submit your article on ATARI compatible compatible cassette or diskette, on typewritten form or you can arrange with the editor to upload your file via modem at either 300 or 1200 baud. You can can send GRAPHICS EIGHT or SEVEN PLUS screens stored on disk in a straight 62 sector binary file of the actual screen bytes. A MICROPAINTE file or binary file saved through +PICTURE PLUS+ will work fine.

Mail your articles and inquires to the editor at the return address on this newsletter.

MILATARI

Milwaukee Area Atari Users Club

MILATARI is an independent, user education group which is not affiliated with ATARI, INC. The newsletter is the official publication of MILATARI and is intended for the education of its members as well as for the dissemination of information concerning ATARI computer products.

MILATARI membership is open to individuals and families who are interested in using and programming ATARI computers. The membership includes a subscription to this newsletter and access to the club libraries. The annual membership fee is \$15 for individual or \$20 for a family.

Other computer user groups may obtain copies of this newsletter on an exchange basis.

All Material in this newsletter not bearing a 'COPYWRITE' message may be reprinted in any form, provided that MILATARI and the author are given credit.

MILATARI ADVERTISING RATES

This newsletter will accept camera ready advertising copy from anyone supplying goods and services of interest to our membership.

Current paid members of MILATARI may place classified ads in the newsletter at no charge.

Advertising Rates

Full page.....\$37.50
 Half page.....\$20.00
 Quarter page.....\$12.50
 Business card.....\$2.00

Long term contracts are available.

Copy is due by the 3rd Friday of each month.

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5-1/4" DISKS AS LOW AS \$13.95 A BOX!

<u>Brand</u>		<u>1-2 Boxes</u>	<u>3 or More Boxes</u>
Maxell	(MD-1) SS/DD	\$22.50/Box	\$21.50/Box
Elephant	(#2) SS/DD	22.50/Box	21.50/Box
Elephant	(#1) SS/SD	19.95/Box	18.95/Box
Verbatim Datalife	(MD525-01) . . . SS/DD	19.95/Box	18.95/Box
Ultra Magnetics	(#5001). SS/SD	14.95/Box	13.95/Box

All disks are soft sector, have hub rings and sleeves and are packed 10 per box. All prices and availability are subject to change without notice.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE CENTER
 9805 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee
 (Two blocks East of Interstate 894)



Tues.-Fri. 12-8, Sat. 12-5

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